

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) DC/DC converter for use in a decentralized power generation system comprising:- a converting component for DC/DC converting a direct current supplied by a power generating unit and for supplying a resulting converted direct current to a DC bus; and - a control component arranged to monitor a voltage at the outputs of said DC/DC converter and to cause said converting component to enter a short-circuit protection mode if said monitored voltage lies below a predetermined voltage threshold, wherein the direct current is set so the power generating unit operates in the Maximum Power Point.

2. (Original) DC/DC converter according to claim 1, wherein said control component is further arranged to cause said converting component to exit an entered short-circuit protection mode again, if said monitored voltage raises above said predetermined voltage threshold.

3. (Original) DC/DC converter according to claim 1, wherein said converting component is adapted to output a converted direct current repeatedly only for a short duration at a time in said short-circuit protection mode.

4. (Original) DC/DC converter according to claim 1, wherein said converting component is adapted to output a current limited to a predetermined maximum value in said short-circuit protection mode.

5. (Original) DC/DC converter according to claim 1, further comprising a short-circuiting component for temporarily short-circuiting the outputs of said DC/DC converter whenever said outputs are to be free of voltage.

6. (Currently amended) Decentralized power generation system comprising: - at least one power generating unit for generating a direct current; - a DC bus for making a supplied current available to a power receiving component; and - at least one DC/DC converter connected between said at least one power generating unit and said DC bus, said DC/DC converter including a converting component for DC/DC converting a direct current supplied by said at least one power generating unit and for supplying a resulting converted direct current to said DC bus, and said DC/DC converter further including a control component arranged to monitor a voltage at the outputs of said DC/DC converter and to cause said converting component to enter a short-circuit protection mode if said monitored voltage lies below a predetermined voltage threshold, wher cin the direct current is set so the power generating unit operates in the Maximum Power Point.

7. (Original) Decentralized power generation system according to claim 6, further comprising at least one plug connection for connecting said at least one DC/DC converter to said DC bus, which plug connection comprises a short-circuiting component short-circuiting the outputs of said DC/DC converter automatically when said plug connection is opened and/or removing a short-circuit between the outputs of said DC/DC converter automatically when said plug connection is closed.

8. (Original) Decentralized power generation system according to claim 6, further comprising a central short-circuiting component for generating a short-circuit on said DC bus.

9. (Original) Decentralized power generation system according to claim 8, further comprising a power receiving component connected to said DC bus and adapted to cause said central short-circuiting component automatically to generate a short-circuit on said DC bus in case of a detected failure situation in said decentralized power generation system.

10. (Currently amended) Method of operating a DC/DC converter in a decentralized power generation system, wherein said DC/DC converter is arranged between a power generating unit and a DC bus, said method comprising: - monitoring a voltage at the outputs of said DC/DC converter; - if said monitored voltage exceeds a predetermined voltage threshold, DC/DC converting a direct current received from said power generating unit and feeding a resulting converted current to said DC bus; and - if said monitored voltage lies below said predetermined voltage threshold, entering a short-circuit protection mode, wherein the direct current is set so the power generating unit operates in the Maximum Power Point.